

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A data processing system comprises a data compression decoder arranged in  
5 operation to decode first and second encoded data to produce first and second  
uncompressed data representative of first and second source data from which the first  
and second encoded data were produced in accordance with a compression encoding  
algorithm respectively. The data compression decoder also produces first and second  
10 compression parameter data representative of encoding decisions made by the  
compression encoding algorithm when the first and second source data was  
compression encoded. The data processing system also comprises a data compression  
encoder which is arranged in operation to compression encode the uncompressed data  
in accordance with the compression encoding algorithm using the first and/or the  
15 second compression parameter data, and a data communications apparatus coupled to  
the data compression decoder and the data compression encoder and arranged in  
operation to communicate the first and/or the second uncompressed data and the first  
and/or the second parameter data, wherein the first and second uncompressed data and  
the first and/or the second parameter data are separately communicated via a common  
20 communications channel provided by the data communications apparatus. The  
compression encoding algorithm may be an MPEG-type algorithm, such as MPEG-2.  
The data processing system provides an advantageous alternative to the MOLE (TM).

[Fig 6]